Writing-off loans of DVB outstanding against Central utilities

141. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government has recently decided to write-off loans of Delhi Vidyut Board outstanding against Central utilities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the loans of other State Electricity Boards would also be written-off by the Union Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) to (d) The Government of India has approved the scheme of "One Time Settlement" of outstanding dues payable by the SEBs to the eight Central Public Sector Undertakings, namely, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC), Nuclear Power Corporation of India (NPC), Neyveli Lignito Corporation (NLC), North-Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO), Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL), Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries, and the Railways. One of the Salient features of the scheme is waiving off 60% of the interest/surcharge on the delayed payments as on 30-09-2001. The rest of the dues amounting to the full principal amount and 40% of the interest/surcharge would be securitised through 15 years tax-free 8.5% bonds issued by the respective State Governments.

This scheme is applicable to all State Electricity Boards including Delhi Vidyut Board.

Tehri Hydel Project

142. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the date of completion and cost envisaged originally for Tehri Hydel Project;

(b) the present status of the project and the cost incurred till date; and

(c) the unit cost of electricity generated by the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) In March, 1994, approval was accroded to the Tehri Hydro Power Corporation for implementing the Tehri Dam & HEP Stage-I (1000 MW) at an estimated cost of Rs. 3391.40 Crs. (March 1993 Price Level) including IDC of Rs. 427.74 crores. The cost estimates included the committed works of Koteshwar HEP and essential works of Tehri PSP. Two units were to be commissioned during 1997-98 and balance two units during 1998-99.

(b) Considerable progress has been made on Tehri Stage-I works. The Main Dam has been raised to an elevation of EL 800 m. and balance height to be raised is ony 40m. against the total height of 260.5m. The work on various fronts of Chute Spillway, Right Bank Shaft Spillway, Left Bank Shaft Spillway is also progressing. The civil Works of underground Power House are nearing completion. The erection work of Electro-mechanical Equipment of the Units is in progress. The first unit is scheduled to be completed by March, 2003 and the balance units by August, 2003. The expenditure incurred on Tehri Stage-I (1000 MW) till May, 2002 is Rs. 4286.89 Crores.

(c) The projected cost of generation at the Revised Cost at Price Level of August, 1999 was estimated at 141.17 paise/unit. The unit cost of generation will be determined on completion of the project by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission.

Proposal submitted by Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh for Development roads under PMGSY

143. DR. AKHILESH DAS : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Uttar pradesh and Andhra Pradesh have submitted a comprehensive project proposal for conversion of the earth and gravel roads in the State connecting villages and habitations with over 1000 population into wider block topped roads and to provide new link roads from such habitations to the existing road network by 2003 under the pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).